

CLAIM LISTING

Applicants request that, pursuant to this amendment, the following listing of claims replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application.

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for provisioning a telephone service feature, the method comprising:

receiving a call request to establish a telephone connection between a calling party and a called party;

if the call request identifies a telephone service, determining whether one of a plurality of telephone service features identified in the call request can be temporarily provisioned to at least one of the calling party and called party;

if the call request does not identify a telephone service feature or a determination is made that an identified telephone service feature can not be temporarily provisioned, presenting to at least one of the calling party and the called party a list of other telephone service features that can be temporarily provisioned to either the calling party or the called party, wherein the list is presented in at least one graphical user interface on at least one display of at least one device used by at least one of the calling party and the called party;

if a telephone feature is identified and can be temporarily provisioned, temporarily allocating telephony system resources to support said identified telephone service feature for the duration of a call over an established telephone connection;

temporarily activating said identified and temporarily provisioned telephone service feature for the call;

deactivating said activated telephone service feature upon completion of said call;
and

reallocating said telephony system resources in response to completion of said call.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a call request identifying a telephone service feature to be temporarily provisioned for the duration of an already-connected call; and
determining whether said identified telephone service feature can be provisioned within a telephony network for a call serviced by a particular exchange carrier.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising allocating line interface circuits capable of providing said requested telephone service feature.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein said allocating step further comprises:

reserving a pool of resources for activating said identified telephone service feature; and

selecting from said reserved pool of resources, an available resource capable of processing said identified telephone service feature.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, wherein said selecting step further comprises the step of multiplexing said available resource onto existing telephony service in order to support said call request for said identified telephone service feature.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said telephone service feature is a feature selected from the group consisting of a caller ID feature, a three-way calling feature, a call waiting feature, a call hold feature and a call forwarding feature.

9. - 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein after the activating step and before the deactivating step, a particular exchange carrier establishes a communication session for the call.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the activating and deactivating steps occur within a network element of a public switched telephone network.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the identified telephone service feature is a feature associated with a line-based telephone number serviced by the exchange carrier.